Vol. VIII. Numb. 27

THE OBSERVATOR.

Remarks on her Majeſty's Proclamation for ſuppreſſing the Diſorders of May-*Fair. 'Tis the Intereſt of all Governments, to prevent Immorality and Profaneneſs, and the ſpreading of ill Principles among their Subjects, if they would have their own Authority preſerv'd, and publick Judgments kept off. Inſtances to prove this. A farther Account how* Newtoundland *came to be neglected.*

From Saturday, April 30. to Wednesday, May 4. 1709.

Country-m. HEre's her Majeſty's Proclamation for ſuppreſſing the Diſorders of *May*-Fair, Maſter, which I know will pleaſe you; pray let me have your Thoughts upon it.

Obſ. 'Tis the Duty of all Governments, *Roger*, to be a *Terror to evil Doers, and a Praiſe to them that do well.* 'Tis for that End Providence has put the Sword of Magiſtracy into their Hands; and if they don't take all poſſible Care, that their People live in Godlineſs and Honeſty, they bear the Sword in vain, and Heaven ſeldom fails to call them to an Account for it even in this Life, either by making their Government uneaſy, or depriving them of it. A publick Diſſolution of Manners, as appears by all Hiſtorians, ſacred and profane, has, without publick Repentance and Reformation, always been attended with the Subverſion of Governments. We need go no farther than our own Country for Inſtances. A Spirit of Impoſition, Tyranny, Inclination towards Popery, and the open Profanation of the Lord's Day, by the Allowance of Sports and Paſtimes upon it. The Continuation of the ſame Courſes, with ſetting up Interludes at Court on the Lord's Day, impoſing the reading of the Declaration of Sports and Paſtimes upon the Clergy, and the Advances made towards Popery and Slavery by the *Laudean* Faction, brought on the Calamities of that Reign; which, being brought to a fatal Period, the prevailing Hypocriſy that ſucceeded during the Uſurpation, and the covering of Ambition and Avarice with Pretexts of Religion, and eſtabliſhing a Sort of Scepticiſm, inſtead of any well-order'd Church-Government, ſoon brought that call'd the Republick to an *Exit*. The intollerable Looſeneſs in Principles and Practice that prevail'd in King *Charles* the IId's Reign, made us liable to Sword, Peſtilence, and Fire, and in the ſtrong Inclination of the Court towards Popery and arbitrary Power, prov'd a Nurſery of Plots and Counter-Plots 'till his Reign was at an End. The Purſuit of the ſame Practices in the Time of King *James* the IId, made his Reign ſhort. The Purſuit of particular Views, inſtead of the true Ends of the Revolution, the Struggles betwixt Factions for Places of Power and Truſt, the Growth of uncharitable *Laudean* Principles on one Side, and of Deiſm and Scepticiſm on the other, and of ill Morals in both, made King *William*'s Reign uneaſy, and in a great Meaſure diſappointed us of the Fruits we had Reaſon to expect from that glorious Deliverance, of which God made him the Inſtrument. Since her Majeſty's Acceſſion to the Throne, and ſetting up on a Foot of Moderation, as a common Mother to her Subjects, God has been pleas'd to bleſs her with wonderful Succeſs; and 'tis very remarkable, that much about the Time when the honourable City of *London* did laſt Year agree to ſuppreſs the Diſorders of *Bartholomew*-Fair, God bleſs'd us with the Victory of *Audenard*, and the Concluſion of a glorious Campaign afterwards, and has now brought the *French* ſo low, as to ſue for Peace, on Propoſals as formerly *Lewis* the XIVth would never have liſten'd to; and ſince it has pleas'd God now, when the Armies are about taking the Field, to put it into her Majeſty's Heart to publiſh a Proclamation for ſuppreſſing the abominable Debaucheries of *May*-Fair, we have Reaſon to hope, that it may uſher in yet greater Bleſſings; towards which, a total Suppreſſion of the lewd and diſorderly Practices of the Play-houſes might afford us ſtill a fairer Proſpect: But if we ſtop at good Beginnings, and ſurceaſe publick Endeavours to put a Stop to Immorality and Profaneneſs, growing Scepticiſm, Uncharitableneſs, Faction, and Enthuſiaſm, we have no Reaſon to think, that we ſhall eſcape publick Calamities and Judgments, more than others have done before us.

Country-m. I want to hear ſomewhat farther of the Buſineſs of *Newfoundland*, Maſter; for ſince that Trade concerns the Nation ſo much, I am ſure, that thoſe who have been guilty of Treachery or Neglect in that and other publick Matters, however they may be pardon'd by Men, can never expect Pardon from God, without Repentance, and Endeavours, to the utmoſt of their Power, to make Reſtitution to the Nation; and tho' the Act of Grace be a very ſignal Proof of her Majeſty's Royal Clemency, and may be of very good Uſe to calm ſome uneaſy Spirits, or to make them unexcuſable, if they continue in their former ſeditious Courſes, I could heartily wiſh, there had been none among us, who needed it as much for betraying or neglecting the publick Affairs with which they have been entruſted.

Obſ. Let them ſee to that, *Roger*: If they don't make Amends by their future Conduct, new Crimes will bring the old to Remembrance, and cancel all Pardons for them. But I go on with the Buſineſs of *Newfoundland*. Our laſt gave an Account of a Petition of the Merchants, for having a regular Government, and ſome more Forts erected in the Country, and an Expedition ſet on foot to reduce *Placenza*, as the only effectual Way to ſecure *Newfoundland*, but in vain.

The next Thing I ſhall give you an Account of, *Roger*, is, that the Inhabitants being continually expos'd to the Irruptions of the *French*. In order to free themſelves from theſe Dangers for ever, they form'd a Deſign for taking *Placenza*, the *French* chief Harbour, Strength, and Place of Reſidence; and their Scheme was deliver'd to one of the then Secretaries of State, but nothing was done in it.

In *June* 1705, the *Newfoundlanders* ſent an Expreſs, with Advice, that 600 *French* and *Indians* from *Placenza*, under *Subercaſſe*, the Governor of that Place, ſurpriz'd the Harbour of St. *John*'s, and beſieg'd the Fort five or ſix Weeks, but was bravely repuls'd by Lieutenant *Moody*, with 40 Soldiers; after which, the *French* burnt and deſtroy'd the Plantation of *Ferry-Land*, and every Thing elſe that was in their Way Home, and carry'd off the beſt of the unarm'd Inhabitants, with their Effects. This was alſo laid before one of the then Secretaries of State, but with the ſame Succeſs as before.

Country-m. I am ſure, Maſter, had any Body ſerv'd me in ſuch a Manner, I would never have truſted them with Secrets, or any Thing elſe. Perſons of that Stamp deſerv'd rather to be call'd Traytors of State, than Secretaries of State. I wonder what

what they were taken up with, and how they ſpent their Time!

Obj. You muſt know, *Roger*, that when Men are once drench'd in Faction and Intrigue, they make it their chief Buſineſs to ſerve their Party, and put Tricks on thoſe that oppoſe them, and on every Body elſe they can, in order to carry on their own Views; which, with Men of ſuch Spirits, will always have the Preference to the Affairs of the Queen and the Country: And thus we have had the Secrets of State entruſted with ſcoundrel and mercenary Clerks, or left at the Mercy of Door-keepers, to betray 'em to the Enemy, if they could find their Account in it. But to return to the Buſineſs of *Newfoundland*, many Merchants of *London* being ſenſible of the Value of that Trade to the Nation, and allarm'd with ſo great a Loſs, they preſented a Petition, wherein they ſet forth, 'That to the great 'Loſs of the Petitioners, and to the Nation in ge'neral, the *Newfoundlanders* had been very often ex'poſ'd to the Inſults of the *French*, who, in *Jan.* '1704. with 600 Men, ſurpriz'd, burnt, and de'ſtroy'd all the Settlements, Habitations, Fiſhing-'Stages, Boats, Store-houſes, and Effects of St. *John's*, '*Petty-Harbour*, *Ferry-Land*, *Bay of Bulls*, *Bay of Con*'*ception*, Town of *Carboneer*, and other Places, to 'the Value of 140000 *l.* Sterling, murder'd many, 'and carry'd off 200 of the Inhabitants.

They added, 'That being inform'd there were 'two Men of War, with a ſingle Company of Sol'diers, bound for *Newfoundland*, they pray'd for 'ſuch farther Supply, as might be ſufficient to ſe'cure and encourage that great and valuable Trade, 'and propos'd either the ſending 5 or 600 Men, or 'that the two Men of War, and the Company go'ing thither, might, with the preſent Garriſon, 'winter there; without which, they apprehended 'the Iſland would ſtill be in Danger, and the Ad'vantage the Kingdom had from that flouriſhing 'Trade, would fall into the Hands of the Enemy, 'to the great Impoveriſhment of the Subject, the 'Diminution of her Majeſty's Revenue, and the 'naval Strength of the Kingdom, and to the great 'Increaſe of the Trade and Strength of the Enemy, 'who neglected no Opportunity to make themſelves 'Maſters of the Fiſhery, as being the chief Nurſe'ry of their Sea-men; and out of whoſe Hands it 'would be very difficult and chargeable to recover 'it again.

This Petition, *Roger*, was ſign'd by about 100 of the moſt eminent Merchants, who, being heard upon it, were order'd to give their Opinion as to what was to be done for the Regulation and the Security of *Newfoundland*.

Accordingly they gave in Writing, that 'twas their Opinion, a civil Government ſhould be eſtabliſh'd, to adminiſter Juſtice; that the People ſhould have Power to elect a chief Magiſtrate, and ſubordinate Officers, for preſerving the Peace; and that blank Commiſſions ſhould be ſent over, and fill'd up, and deliver'd to ſuch Men as ſhould be choſen by the Majority for military Officers, to train and inſtruct the People, ſo as they might be in a Capacity to defend themſelves againſt the *French*. The Merchants ſaid, there were at leaſt 1000 Men in *Newfoundland* in the Winter able to bear Arms; and that it was neceſſary they ſhould be furniſh'd with them, and with Ammunition.

It was propos'd to the Merchants, that thoſe People in the Winter ſhould remove with their Effects to St. *John's*, as the only Place of Security; but the Merchants alledg'd, that could not be done, or if it could, that the Place was not capable of entertaining them; and therefore propos'd, that the Ware-houſes at St. *John's* might be enlarg'd, and that Forts might be built for the Safety of the Inhabitants, at the three Bays of *Conception*, *Trinity*, and *Bonaviſta*.

Country-m. And what was there done in this Affair, Maſter?

Obj. You ſhall hear of that another Time, *Roger*, and likewiſe of the Importance of that Fiſhery to the Nation.

Advertiſements.

Juſt publiſh'd the ſecond Part of

☞ Enthuſiaſtick Impoſtors, no Divinely inſpir'd People, wherein the pretended French and Engliſh Prophets are ſhewn in their proper Colours, their Pretences to Inſpiration refuted by holy Scriptures, their Impoſtures diſcover'd by their own Words and Actions, and by Depoſitions, Declarations, and other credible Teſtimonies, in an Appendix ſubjoin'd. Part the 2d. By the Author of the 1ſt Part. Sold by B. Bragge in Pater-Noſter-Row.

☞ An Old Letter-Caſe being dropt the 28th of April, ſomewhere near Cheapſide, in which was ſome Bills or Notes concerning the Payment of Money. If any Perſon brings the ſame to the Sun Coffee-houſe behind the Royal Exchange, within five Days from the 4th of May, they ſhall have 10s. Reward, the Bills or Notes can be of no Benefit to any but the true Owner.

☞ I do hereby publickly declare, That I neither directly, nor indirectly know any thing of the Letter Mr. Marten the Surgeon pretends was ſent him, and which he has made publick in ſeveral News-papers; but do believe, if any ſuch Letter came to his Hands, (tho' I am rather inclin'd to believe he forg'd it himſelf) it was ſent by ſome Patient or other of his, that had been two or three times thus'd by him to no Purpoſe, but a very ill one, and was afterwards cur'd by my Royal Decoction; ſome of whom I have heard rail at him in Terms much like thoſe contain'd in the Letter. I alſo further declare, Mr. Marten belies me, in terming me a Pearl-driller; for I never did, nor do know any thing of that Trade, but have been a Practitioner in Phyſick above 40 Years, and brought up under one of the ableſt Phyſicians in Brabant. For theſe harſh Reflections, I appeal to the Candor of all the Profeſſors of Phyſick and Surgery, all of whom he has abus'd in Print, either in general or particular, whether I ought not to make this Return for the many ſcurrilous and falſe Aſperſions caſt upon me, after I had us'd him like a Gentleman? But his Advertiſements ſhew him to be none. John Sintelaer.

☞ The Royal Decoction, or a never-failing Diet-Drink againſt the Venereal Diſeaſe. Its wonderful Efficacy is ſuch, that any Patient may be thereby moſt effectually cur'd, be it of never ſo long ſtanding, and aggravated by ineffectual Salivations, and the Body be cover'd with Scabs, Ulcers, Blotches, and the Legs with Holes, all the Limbs with moſt excruciating Pains, the Palate eaten away, and the Noſe fallen in, &c. This Anti-venereal Decoction eaſes all the Venereal Pains in 8 Days, and in 30 Days perfects the whole Cure, and that without the Uſe of Mercury. The Gentleman, who alone prepares this Decoction, offers to enter into an Engagement, from 100 to 500 Pounds, for the Performance of what he promiſes, if any Patient, tho' diſcourag'd by other Practitioners, will come to his Houſe, he will furniſh them with Neceſſaries, as well as Phyſick, for 8 Days, and if by that time he is not ſatisfy'd that he may be perfectly cur'd, he is free to leave it, without paying any thing for Lodging, Diet, or Phyſick. The Taſte of this Decoction is ſo pleaſant, and the Operation ſo kind to Nature, that big-belly'd Women and Sucklings are daily cur'd with it at all the Seaſons of the Year. The Doctor or his Wife are to be ſpoken with at all ſeaſonable Hours, at the Hand and Urinal, over againſt little Turn-ſtile in high Holborn, (late the D. of Leeds's.) N.B. The Bill at large is to be ſeen hanging up in the Royal Exchange, London.

☞ The Scourge of Venus and Mercury, repreſented in a Treatiſe of the Venereal Diſeaſe; together with an Appendix in anſwer to Mr. John Marten's Reflexions thereupon. By J. Sintelaer, Practitioner in Phyſick, and Author of the Royal Decoction. Price of the Appendix alone bound 6d, together 3s. 6d. Sold by J. Helms in Weſtminſter-hall, R. Gosling at the Mitre in Fleet-ſtreet, W. Carter at the Green Dragon in St. Paul's Church-yard, J. Phillips at the Black Bull in Cornhill, H. Ribotteau at the Crown near Cecil-ſtreet in the Strand, B. Picard at the 3 Bibles in the Minories, J. Harding in St. Martins-lane near Long-acre, J. Morphew near Stationers-hall, and by the Author at his Dwelling-houſe (late the Duke of Leeds's) in high Holborn, over againſt little Turn-ſtile.

QUACKERY UNMASK'D; or, Reflections on the 6th Edition of Mr. Marten's Treatiſe of the Venereal Diſeaſe, and its Appendix, and the Pamphlet call'd The charitable Surgeon, &c. containing a full and plain Detection and Refutation of ſome groſs Errors, &c. of thoſe Authors: Interſpers'd with many new and uſeful Obſervations concerning the Venereal Diſeaſe, and the Method and Medicines proper for its ſpeedy, ſafe, and effectual Curation. Proper Remarks on Mr. Marten's admirable Medicine, and his infallible Preſervative. A full and true Account of Quacks, and their Method of Practice. An Account of ſome excellent Medicines, &c. Highly neceſſary to be read by all Venereal Patients, who would prevent their own Ruin, and by all Phyſicians, Surgeons, and Apothecaries, who are here vindicated from Mr. Marten's Aſperſions. By J. Spinke, licens'd Practitioner in Phyſick and Surgery. Sold by D. Brown without Temple-bar, G. Strahan in Cornhill, J. Woodward in Threadneedle-ſtreet, B. Baker in Weſtminſter-hall, and the Author at the Golden Ball between the Sun and Caſtle Taverns in Honey-lane Market in Cheapſide. Price s. 1 6 d.

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